

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A base station supporting multicast communication, the base station comprising:

a control signal relay configured to transmit a common control signal to a plurality of mobile stations in a multicast group; and

a response signal relay configured to

receive a predetermined number of response signals to the common control signal from at least one first mobile station in the multicast group,

receive a subsequent response signal to the common control signal from a second mobile station in the multicast group, the subsequent response signal received after the predetermined number of response signals,

transfer only the predetermined number of response signals received from the at least one first mobile station to a controller, and

retain the subsequent response signal to the common control signal received from the second mobile station in the multicast group

response signals transmitted from a plurality of mobile stations to a radio network controller, the response signals responding to a control signal for a multicast group; and
wherein

the response signal relay transfers only a predetermined number of response signals to the radio network controller, and any following response signal is retained.

Claim 2 (Original): The base station according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined number is one.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A radio network controller supporting multicast communication, wherein

the radio network controller performs a predetermined processing on a predetermined number of response signals, the predetermined number of response signals being transmitted from at least one first mobile station and responding to a control signal for a multicast group; and

the radio network controller performs processing on only the predetermined number of response signals, and any following a subsequent response signal is unprocessed by the radio network controller, the subsequent following response signals signal being transmitted from ~~at least one a~~ second mobile station.

Claim 5 (Original): The radio network controller according to claim 4, wherein the predetermined number is one.

Claim 6 (New): A base station supporting multicast communication, the base station comprising:

a control signal relay configured to transmit a common control signal to a plurality of mobile stations in a multicast group; and

a response signal relay configured to

receive a predetermined number of response signals to the common control signal from at least one first mobile station in the multicast group,

receive a subsequent response signal to the common control signal from a second mobile station in the multicast group, the subsequent response signal received after the predetermined number of response signals, process only the predetermined number of response signals received from the at least one first mobile station to a controller, and unprocess the subsequent response signal to the common control signal received from the second mobile station in the multicast group.